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The Washington Merry-Go-Round

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Fong Helping Slot Machine 'King'

By Drew Pearson

Hawaii's impeccable, imperturbable Sen. Hiram Fong has been pulling backstage wires to help Martin Bromley, the Hawaiian slot-machine king, whose slot machines are reaping a harvest of nickels, dimes and quarters from GIs in service clubs around the world.



Pearson

Internal Revenue is now investigating whether Bromley counted his nickels correctly in making out his income tax returns. Actually the total take from Bromley's slot machines is not measured in nickels, but in millions of dollars. His slot machines are stationed in service clubs all over the world, and each club also gets a cut for its recreation fund.

Hiram Fong, the first Chinese-American ever elected to the U. S. Senate, is a highly respected financier and banana-farm operator in Honolulu. He heads the Finance Realty Co., the Finance Investment Co., the Grand Pacific Investment Co., the Finance Insurance Co., the Finance Home Builders, Finance Factors with branch offices all over the islands, and is senior partner in Fong Miho Choy & Robinson, a law firm which has been remarkably successful in wrapping up real estate deals for Fong's far-flung housing operations.

Senator Fong's office, when queried about his representa-

tions on behalf of Bromley, was quite familiar with the matter and said that Fong's assistant, Kenneth Nakamura, had been assigned to work on Bromley's problems.

The Senator himself, however, seemed vague. At first he said he didn't know anything about the matter. When reminded that his assistant had been assigned to help Bromley on his problems, he corrected himself, said that Bromley was being given routine help.

The facts in the case are that Bromley's slot machines operate in Army, Navy and Air Force clubs, through a company incorporated in Panama called Service Games Panama.

On Okinawa when the U. S. Military Government refused to license Bromley's slot machines, he got round the ban by using a license already granted to Barclay and Co., a respected import-export firm. Barclay canceled the arrangement on October 12, however, after a visit from Internal Revenue agents who were probing Bromley's taxes.

Meanwhile the revenue agents have accumulated several revealing documents, including a memo stamped "Confidential" from Barclay's agent in Tokyo, Martin Plevinsky. It warned that the company might get into trouble because of its arrangement with Service Games.

One passage also mentioned Senator Fong.

"The Navy was disturbed about the fact that Hiram Fong, the new Senator from Hawaii, made a personal trip to Yokosuka and advised the

Navy command to use Service Games machines in its clubs," said the confidential memo declared. "In the meantime, the Navy has requested an investigation of Hiram Fong in Hawaii to determine Fong's connection with Service Games."

The Senator, when queried, said he has no connection with Service Games, claimed he had never advised the Navy to use Bromley's slot machines.

Note—In addition to the tax probe started by Internal Revenue, the government of Okinawa has also filed a \$345,000 claim against Service Games for back taxes and customs.

Behind the Scenes

Army and Marine Corps helicopters certainly got a workout during Ike's recent "non-political" tour. At Palm Springs where the President golfed with George Allen, the China Lobby's oil partner, three helicopters were at the airport and one flew Ike direct to the golf course. . . . At Schilling AF Base, Salina, Kans., two helicopters flew the presidential party to Abilene while six 'copters stood by from Fort Riley. . . . After the Kansas City Star endorsed Nixon and Lodge the following announcement was heard on Station KFRU in Columbia, Mo.: "Vote the straight Democratic ticket. This announcement is paid for by Bill Clark, your Kansas City Star distributor." . . . William A. Roberts, the Washington attorney, is sending friends the following telegram: "As an American I resent the discourteous

conduct of the Republican candidate to his wife. He may have had his own ideas but it was thoroughly discourteous for him to say 'America can't stand pat.'" . . . Congressman William S. Broomfield of Michigan clutters up the Congressional Record with every organization he has ever joined from Greater North Woodward Optimist Club to the Royal Oak Hi-Twelve Club to Berkeley Lodge No. 536 F. and A. M. But he does not list his war service. Broomfield lists himself as a member of the American Legion but doesn't say how he served his country. Broomfield was inducted into the army June 8, 1942, was dropped July 28, '42, just 40 days later. This was shortly after Pearl Harbor when the army really needed manpower. If you ask the army why Broomfield was discharged the answer is "We can't reveal this without his permission. It's sensitive."

Bob Hope, running for president—on NBC—was asked: "How do you feel about foreign entanglements?" Replied Bob, "What's wrong with American girls?" Hope's presidential platform: "I'm against forest fires, marijuana, and the tsetse fly." . . . "The way to make money," says Hope, "is to start your own country and apply for foreign aid." . . . The Sunflower State of Kansas, normally rock-ribbed Republican, hasn't gone Democratic since FDR carried it in 1936. In the last few days Democratic leaders think they may be able to repeat '36. The Kennedy crowd in Wichita was terrific.

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